



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 110th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 153

WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, JANUARY 23, 2007

No. 13

Senate

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable JON TESTER, a Senator from the State of Montana.

PRAYER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Today's prayer will be offered by former Senate Chaplain Dr. Lloyd Ogilvie of Los Angeles, CA.

The guest chaplain offered the following prayer:

"Wait on the Lord; take courage, and He shall strengthen your heart. Wait, I say, on the Lord."

Gracious God, Sovereign of our Nation, Lord of our lives and source of inspiration and courage for the high calling of political leadership, the bracing admonition of the psalmist sounds in our souls. Wait on You Lord? That is not easy for us to do. Then we realize that waiting on You is not for You to catch up with us to bless what we have already decided but for us to linger in Your presence until we think Your thoughts, experience Your love, will to do Your will, and receive Your supernatural guidance for the great issues we face. Thank You for stopping us in our tracks, capturing our minds, quieting our stress-strained emotions, and interrupting our flow of words with Your Word, "Be still and know that I am God."

Father, we need You more than our next breath and we depend on You more than the thump of our next heartbeat.

We really believe there is no problem too big for You to solve, no division so complex that there is no solution through creative compromise, and no struggle for political power that You cannot turn into a stepping stone.

On this day of the State of the Union Address, bless our President as he speaks and the Members of Congress as they listen, that unified by patriotism, they may lead our beloved Nation through this turbulent time. We thank You for the patriotic Americans who

lead this Senate: ROBERT BYRD, HARRY REID, MITCH MCCONNELL, DICK DURBIN, and TRENT LOTT. We wait on You. Grant us courage and strengthen our hearts. You are our Lord and Savior. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable JON TESTER led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore [Mr. BYRD].

The assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, January 23, 2007.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, section 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable JON TESTER, a Senator from the State of Montana, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD,
President pro tempore.

Mr. TESTER thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

WELCOME BACK TO REVEREND OGILVIE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, it is very good to have back Reverend Ogilvie, our former Senate Chaplain. A lot of

thoughts came to my mind. I sat here for 6 years and listened to almost every one of his prayers. My mind goes back to some of the tragedies that had come to the Senate during his tenure, including the death of Governor Carnahan, the death of Paul Wellstone, and the death of Paul Coverdell. I mention Paul Coverdell because I traveled to his funeral in Georgia, and the Chaplain at that time, Chaplain Ogilvie, delivered the eulogy and was in charge of the services there in Georgia. I will always remember the dignity, compassion, and the understanding in the words of Reverend Ogilvie. It is good to have you back. Thank you very much for all you do for our country. I am sure you are doing good things in California, as you did here for so many years.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, if the majority leader will allow me an observation about Dr. Ogilvie and his extraordinary service to this body and to the Nation, it was truly exemplary. I know I speak for all of the Members on this side of the aisle when I say to Dr. Ogilvie, thank you for your years of service here. It is wonderful to see you again.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, this morning, we will be in a period of morning business for 60 minutes. The first half of the time will be under the control of the Republicans and the second half of the time will be under the control of the Democrats.

Following morning business, we will resume consideration of H.R. 2, the minimum wage bill. We will be in recess today from 12:30 to 2:15 for the party luncheons. As I indicated, we have two cloture motions that have been filed. The first vote, on line-item veto, will take place tomorrow. If cloture is not invoked, we will then proceed to a vote on the underlying bill, which is S. 2.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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